

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/051957

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H04K1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H04K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 03/067797 A (KEVENAAR THOMAS A M ; TUYLS PIM T (NL); JOHNSON MARK T (NL); KONINKL P) 14 August 2003 (2003-08-14) cited in the application	1-4,6-11
Y	page 1, line 20 - line 23 page 3, line 22 - line 31 page 4, line 24 - line 26 figures 3,4	5
Y	----- US 4 859 994 A (ZOLA DANIEL ET AL) 22 August 1989 (1989-08-22) column 5, line 1 - line 21; figure 3	5
A	----- NAOR M ET AL: "Visual cryptography" 12 May 1994 (1994-05-12), ADVANCES IN CRYPTOLOGY. EUROCRYPT, XX, XX, PAGE(S) 1-12 , XP002205767 abstract	1-11
	----- -/--	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

\*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 December 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

29/12/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Cretaine, P

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/IB2004/051957

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 0181, no. 46 (P-1707), 10 March 1994 (1994-03-10) &amp; JP 5 323267 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 7 December 1993 (1993-12-07) abstract &amp; JP 05 323267 A (TOSHIBA CORP) 7 December 1993 (1993-12-07) -----</p>	1-11

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/051957

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 03067797	A	14-08-2003	BR	0302972 A	06-07-2004
			EP	1479185 A1	24-11-2004
			WO	03067797 A1	14-08-2003
US 4859994	A	22-08-1989	JP	2000031 A	05-01-1990
JP 5323267	A	07-12-1993	NONE		